

1003.0 - ABS News for Libraries, Feb 2008

Latest ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 03/03/2008 Ceased

Summary

Contents

CONTENTS



In this Issue

Overview of this issue's content



NetNews

Includes: **Quality Declarations**

The latest updates and news on technical developments on the ABS website.



Feature Article

Includes: **Year Book Australia 2008, Historical Year Books Online**

The headline article of national interest.



Census

Includes: **Social Atlas series, Working Population Profiles, SEIFA**

The latest Census news, including products, training and promotion.



Shortcuts

Includes: **Water Statistics Quiz**

A brief self-help information guide on a variety of topics to help you use ABS information.



New Releases

Includes: **Time Use, Population, Sports Data**

Recent and upcoming releases relevant to libraries

In this Issue



IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome to the first issue of ABS News for Libraries for 2008! There is so much new information available from the ABS at the moment that is relevant to all sectors of the profession. In an effort to include all of this information we have temporarily replaced the sections reporting on education, public and specialist libraries with a feature on 'New Releases'.

So what can you look forward to in this issue?

Ever struggled with determining whether the data you find is suitable to your specific information need? Read about quality declarations in our Net News section and how this information can help you answer this question. Test your knowledge with our fun Water Statistics Quiz in the Shortcuts section, and become familiar with two key environment publications in the process. Read about the 2008 Year Book in our Feature Article section, as well as the recent release of historical year books on the web and how you can contribute to future digitisation projects.

We are also about to release a set of webpages focussing on information and resources that will assist librarians improve their own statistical literacy and help others with their research needs. If you want to be notified as soon as they are released, subscribe to our blog. You will also be able to catch up with our latest blog entries, such as the new Crime & Justice FAQs.

Happy reading!

Net News



NET NEWS

Quality Declarations

The Australian Bureau of Statistics strives to ensure that the users of our statistics are well informed on the quality of these statistics in order to assess their fitness for purpose. This value is deeply held throughout the ABS and is reflected in the ABS Corporate Plan. To uphold these values, quality declarations have now been introduced onto the ABS website. These declarations are intended to be informative statements about the quality of statistical products using the dimensions of the data quality framework adopted by the ABS.

What is covered in a Quality Declaration?

- Institutional Environment
- Relevance
- Timeliness
- Accuracy
- Coherence
- Interpretability
- Accessibility

Quality Declarations are accessible through an icon near the product name, as well as having a link within the Explanatory Notes tab.



Fig 1. Quality declaration screenshot

Quality Declarations are designed to help in determining the 'fitness for purpose' of the data you are viewing. 'Fitness for purpose' refers to the way the data meets your need. That is, whether you can use the data for the purpose you had in mind. Quality Declarations will complement, but not replace, our existing explanatory and technical notes, and more detailed documentation.

Feature Article



FEATURE ARTICLE

2008 Year Book Australia

The 2008 edition of Year Book Australia (cat. no. 1301.0) was launched on 7 February 2008 by His Excellency, the Governor-General of Australia. The Year Book is a valuable source of comprehensive and detailed statistical information, providing an overview of various aspects of the economy and social conditions in Australia. It also contains chapters about Australia's geography and climate, government, international relations, defence, education, and health.

In addition to the broad range of Australian statistics, which include contributions from many government and private organisations outside the ABS, the Year Book includes a number of special articles. The 2008 edition includes features on *Scouting*; *Tsunami Risk to Australia*, *Sustainable Forest Management*, *Child Employment*, and more.

Making History... all Year Books available online

The historic Year Book Australia Online was also launched by the Governor-General at ABS House on 7 February, celebrating a century of publishing by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. All 90 Year Books from the earliest edition published in 1908, to the latest edition in 2008 are now available online. The Year Books have been scanned from the paper version and use character recognition software which provides a full-text searching capability once downloaded. The historic Year Books can be accessed via the Past & Future Releases tab of the 2008 edition.

Can You Help? seeking print copies of old ABS publications

Can your library contribute to further ABS material being digitised for the web?

ABS Library Services National is seeking any surplus copies of old ABS publications to assist with our digitisation project. Most titles published earlier than 1998, either national or state publications, would be gratefully received.

Contact library@abs.gov.au or phone (02) 6252 6612 if you may be able to assist us.

Census



CENSUS

Some new 2006 Census products have just been released, and more are coming soon. These include:



Community Profiles: Working Population Profile (1st issue) Census Tables on the Working Population released 29 February 2008

The Working Population Profile contains 22 tables of key Census characteristics of employed persons. The tables provide a range of data, including how many people work full-time or part-time, their incomes, which industries they work in, which industries have people working long hours, which occupations utilise the Internet, and how people travel to work. For further information see the Place of Work Factsheet.

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)

full suite due to be released 26 March 2008

This is a product developed especially for those interested in the assessment of the welfare of Australian communities. The ABS has developed indexes to allow ranking of regions/areas, providing a method of determining the level of social and economic well-being in that region. Examples of variables used are income, education, occupation and housing conditions.

The full release of the four Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) (cat. no. 2033.0.55.001) and a detailed technical paper (cat. no. 2039.0.55.001) will be published on 26 March 2008. However, due to strong demand for access to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD), the ABS released a preliminary version of the IRSD data and a preliminary Information Paper (cat. no. 2039.0) on 18 February 2008.

The ABS advises users, especially those with no prior experience of SEIFA indices, to wait for the full release with the accompanying documentation and manual.

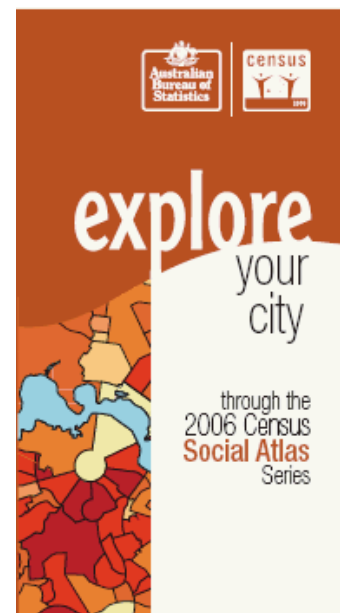
Social Atlas series (cat. no. 2030.0) due to be released 17 March 2008

One of the most popular Census products from 2001, the Social Atlas series consists of a separate publication for each state and territory. Each Atlas presents colour maps that highlight key characteristics of the population in each capital city and selected regional areas.

The maps depict social, economic and housing characteristics based on data collected in the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. This information shows the diversity that exists across Australia's cities and regional centres.

The maps are easy to interpret as the distribution of the data are represented by different colours and shading. Brief commentary explaining the main features and characteristics also accompany each map.

To provide some consistency between atlases, each publication includes a common set of maps for the capital city areas covering topics such as population, cultural diversity, education, labour force, income, families, households and dwellings. Also, each Social Atlas includes additional maps that highlight any unique attributes pertaining to the particular capital city. A smaller selection of maps are included for the selected regional centres and these vary from Atlas to Atlas.



Other new publications:

A number of other publications utilising 2006 Census data have also been recently released. These include:

Employment in Culture, Australia, 2006 (cat no. 6273.0) released 27 February 2008

Perspectives on Migrants, 2007 (cat no. 3416.0) released 25 February 2008

Keep up-to-date with the latest Census developments and releases by subscribing to Census Users emails. To subscribe: email census.users@abs.gov.au and type 'add to Census email' in the subject field. You can opt out at any time.

Shortcuts



SHORTCUTS

Water Statistics

Below is a short **Water Quiz** to self-assess your awareness of water-related data available in two recent Environmental publications.

Questions 1-5 relate to Australia's Environment: Issues and Trends, 2007 (cat. no. 4613.0), questions 6-10 relate to Environmental Issues: People's Views and Practices, March 2007 (cat. no. 4602.0). Page numbers accompanying each question below relate to the pdf version of these publications.

1. What was the second most common source of water used by Australian households in 2007? (See page 70)

- a) Main/storm water
- b) Rain water tank
- c) Bottled water
- d) Grey water

2. Which sector/industry accounts for the largest volume of water consumption in Australia? (See page 62)

- a) Water suppliers
- b) Manufacturing industry
- c) Agricultural industry
- d) Households

3. The Murray-Darling Basin accounts for what percentage of Australia's irrigation water use? (See page 22)

- a) 70%
- b) 72%
- c) 74%
- d) 76%

4. Is the following statistic True or False?

The percentage increase reported on the number of fishing vessels apprehended for illegal fishing between 1999 and 2005 was 250%. (See page 75)

5. Is the following statement True or False?

The United States of America was the first country in the world to introduce the Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme that requires mandatory water efficiency labels on all shower heads, washing machines, toilets, dishwashers, urinals and some types of taps. (See page 21)

6. In 2007, how many households reported using rainwater tanks a source of water? (See page 32)

- a) Less than 500,000
- b) Between 500,000 and 1 million
- c) More than 1 million
- d) More than 1.5 million

7. In terms of water conservation, which state had the highest proportion of households who

reported collecting grey water? (See page 45)

- a) New South Wales
- b) Victoria
- c) Queensland
- d) Australian Capital Territory

8. What percentage of Australian households reported to have at least one dual-flush toilet in 2007? (See page 47)

- a) 36%
- b) 54%
- c) 73%
- d) 81%

9. What is the third most common way to save water in the garden? (See page 63)

- a) Using grey water
- b) Only watering when necessary
- c) Using mulch
- d) Waiting for rainfall

10. Which state/territory has the highest proportion of outdoor spas? (See page 76)

- a) New South Wales
- b) Victoria
- c) Western Australia
- d) Northern Territory

Quiz Answers

About the publications...

Australia's Environment: Issues and Trends, 2007 (cat. no. 4613.0)

This publication offers a broad selection of environmental statistics and information which illustrate topical environmental issues. The first part explores an issue of major environmental concern, and the issue chosen for the 2007 edition is water. The second part covers major trends of relevance to the environment, included under five broad headings: population, human activities, atmosphere, water, and landscape.

This publication is particularly useful for:

- school research projects
- informed decision-making across all levels of government
- policy makers, environmental practitioners or researchers
- general public interest

Environmental Issues: People's Views and Practices, March 2007 (cat. no. 4602.0)

This publication focuses on 'water use and conservation' and covers a range of issues including water sources, water supply, rainwater tanks and water saving measures.

New Releases



NEW RELEASES

How do Australians Use Their Time?

How much time do Australians spend reading? How much time do young people spend watching television? Are men spending more or less time on child care activities than in 1997? Which people feel time pressured?

All these questions can be answered with the latest release of How Australians Use Their Time, 2006 (cat. no. 4153.0), published on 21 February 2008. The 2006 Time Use Survey was the third conducted in Australia, with previous surveys in 1997 and 1992. The survey measures the daily activity patterns of people, providing information about time spent on:

- paid and unpaid work
- education
- leisure
- fitness and health activities
- radio and television listening/watching
- use of other technology
- transport
- outsourcing of domestic tasks
- interactions with others

Here are a few statistics highlighting some of the areas of study in this publication:

- For men, the average time per day spent on total **domestic activities**, at 1 hour 37 minutes in 2006, has not changed since 1992. For women, the average time spent on domestic activities has declined over time, from 3 hours and 2 minutes in 1992 to 2 hours 52 minutes a day in 2006 (12% of the day).
- In 2006, the time spent on **recreation and leisure** was 4 hours 13 minutes per day, down 15 minutes from 1997, with the largest falls being in time spent on: 'sport and outdoor activities' (down 8 minutes on average); and 'games, hobbies, arts and crafts' (down 7 minutes).
- For young people (aged 15 to 24 years), the amount of time spent **sleeping** (9 hours and 2 minutes) is more than half an hour per day longer than for all persons (8 hours 31 minutes), with young females sleeping significantly longer than young males.
- In 2006, women undertook more than 60% of the **goods and services purchasing**, spending 58 minutes a day compared with men spending 38 minutes a day. In 1992 women spent 55 minutes a day compared with men's 34 minutes.

Migration

Australia's population reached a milestone **21 million** during the June quarter 2007 fuelled by the highest population growth rate since 1989.

The increase of 315,700 people resulted in an estimated 1.5% growth rate. Net overseas migration contributed to over half (56% or 177,600 people) of Australia's growth, while natural increase contributed 44% (272,900 births minus 134,800 deaths). See Australian Demographic Statistics, June 2007 (cat. no. 3101.0).

The next annual issue of **Migration, Australia 2006-07** (cat. no. 3412.0) is due to be released 26 March 2008. It contains information on international and internal migration by state and territory. This issue has two feature articles:

- *Traveller characteristics of recent net overseas migration*; and
- *Permanent departures overseas - where are they going?*

Population Concepts

A new **Information Paper** on Population Concepts (cat. no. 3107.0.55.006) is due to be released on 12 March 2008. This paper will discuss the difference between various concepts such as:

- Population present
- Usually resident population
- Legal population
- Economic population
- Working population
- Service population

Regional Population Growth

For the latest population figures for your Local Government Area check the next issue of the annual **Regional Population Growth, Australia** (cat. no. 3218.0). Due to be released 31 March 2008, this issue will include preliminary estimates for sub state/territory levels for June 2007.

Defining Sport and Exercise

A Discussion Paper: Defining Sport and Exercise, a Conceptual Model, 2008 was released on 22 February. This paper presents a draft conceptual model defining key concepts commonly used in survey research on sport and exercise. The ABS would be particularly keen to hear feedback from specialists working in the field of sport and physical activity policy, research or measurement.

Finding Sports and Physical Recreation Data

The latest issue of Sports and Physical Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 2008 (Edition 1), released 1 February, provides a comprehensive guide to finding data about sports and physical recreation.

Shortcuts quiz answers



SHORTCUTS

Water Quiz Answers

Here are the answers to the Water Quiz. Refer to the relevant publications and page numbers for further information.

Australia's Environment: Issues and Trends, 2007 (cat. no. 4613.0)

1. What was the second most common source of water used by Australian households in 2007? (See page 70)

d) Grey water

2. Which sector/industry accounts for the largest volume of water consumption in Australia? (See page 62)

c) Agricultural industry

3. The Murray-Darling Basin accounts for what percentage of Australia's irrigation water use? (See page 22)

a) 70%

4. Is the following statistic True or False? The percentage increase reported on the number of fishing vessels apprehended for illegal fishing between 1999 and 2005 was 250% (See page 75)

True.

5. Is the following statement True or False? The United States of America was the first country in the world to introduce the Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme that requires mandatory water efficiency labels on all shower heads, washing machines, toilets, dishwashers, urinals and some types of taps. (See page 21)

False.

Environmental Issues: People's Views and Practices, March 2007 (cat. no. 4602.0)

6. In 2007, how many households reported using rainwater tanks a source of water? (See page 32)

d) More than 1.5 million

7. In terms of water conservation, which state had the highest proportion of households who reported collecting grey water? (See page 45)

b) Victoria

8. What percentage of Australian households reported to have at least one dual flush toilet in 2007? (See page 47)

d) 81%

9. What is the third most common way to save water in the garden? (See page 63)

b) Only watering when necessary

10. Which state/territory has the highest proportion of outdoor spas? (See page 76)

d) Northern Territory

[Return to the Water Quiz](#)

About this Release

The ABS News for Libraries Newsletter is produced by the Information Skills Program and distributed to libraries in the public, education and government sectors. This newsletter keeps them up to date on the news and items of interest to the library community, including website developments, training and publications of relevance, and to promote ABS products and services.

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website – except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence